

House File 126 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 126
BY COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 14)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the filing of lobbyist registrations and
2 lobbyist's client reports with the general assembly.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 68B.36, Code 2011, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **68B.36 Applicability — lobbyist registration required.**

4 1. All lobbyists shall, on or before the day their lobbying
5 activity begins, register by electronically filing a lobbyist's
6 registration statement at times and in the manner provided in
7 this section. In addition to any other information required by
8 the general assembly ~~and the board~~, a lobbyist shall identify
9 in the registration statement all clients of the lobbyist
10 and whether the lobbyist will also be lobbying the executive
11 branch. Lobbyists engaged in lobbying activities before
12 the general assembly and before the office of the governor
13 or any state agency shall file the statement with the chief
14 clerk of the house of representatives or the secretary of the
15 senate. ~~Lobbyists engaged in lobbying activities before the~~
16 ~~office of the governor or any state agency shall file the~~
17 ~~statement with the board~~. The chief clerk of the house and the
18 secretary of the senate shall ~~provide appropriate registration~~
19 ~~forms to lobbyists before the general assembly~~. ~~The board~~
20 ~~shall prescribe appropriate registration forms for lobbyists~~
21 ~~before the office of the governor and state agencies~~ establish
22 an internet site for the electronic filing of lobbyist
23 registrations.

24 2. Registration shall be valid from the date of registration
25 until ~~the expiration of the registration period for the type~~
26 ~~of lobbying in which the person will be engaging~~ the end of the
27 calendar year. Any change in or addition to the information
28 shall be registered within ten days after the change or
29 addition is known to the lobbyist. ~~Changes or additions for~~
30 ~~executive branch lobbyists shall be filed with the board~~.
31 Changes or additions for registrations of lobbyists ~~of the~~
32 ~~general assembly~~ shall be filed with either the chief clerk of
33 the house or the secretary of the senate.

34 3. ~~For persons registered to lobby before the general~~
35 ~~assembly, registration expires upon the commencement of the~~

1 ~~next regular session of the general assembly, except that the~~
 2 ~~chief clerk of the house and the secretary of the senate may~~
 3 ~~adopt and implement a reasonable preregistration procedure~~
 4 ~~in advance of each regular session during which persons~~
 5 ~~may register for that session and the following legislative~~
 6 ~~interim. For persons registered to lobby before the office of~~
 7 ~~the governor or a state agency, registration expires upon the~~
 8 ~~commencement of a new calendar year. The board may adopt and~~
 9 ~~implement a reasonable preregistration procedure in advance of~~
 10 ~~each new calendar year during which persons may register for~~
 11 ~~that year. Beginning December 1 of each year, a person may~~
 12 ~~preregister to lobby for the following calendar year.~~

13 4. If a lobbyist's service on behalf of all clients,
 14 employers, or causes is concluded prior to the end of the
 15 calendar year, the lobbyist may cancel the registration on
 16 ~~appropriate forms supplied by the board, the chief clerk of the~~
 17 ~~house, or the secretary of the senate. The cancellation forms~~
 18 ~~shall be filed by the lobbyist in the place where the lobbyist~~
 19 ~~filed the original registration by electronically filing a~~
 20 ~~notice of cancellation with the chief clerk of the house or the~~
 21 ~~secretary of the senate.~~ Upon cancellation of registration, a
 22 lobbyist is prohibited from engaging in any lobbying activity
 23 on behalf of any employer, client, or cause until reregistering
 24 ~~and complying with the rules of the board or the general~~
 25 ~~assembly.~~

26 5. Federal, state, and local officials who wish to lobby
 27 in opposition to the official position of their departments,
 28 commissions, boards, or agencies must indicate this on their
 29 lobbyist registration statements.

30 6. The chief clerk of the house or the secretary of the
 31 senate shall post all lobbyist registrations in a searchable
 32 database on an internet site. The board shall establish a link
 33 on the internet site of the board to the lobbyist registration
 34 information on the general assembly's internet site.

35 Sec. 2. Section 68B.38, Code 2011, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 **68B.38 Lobbyist's client reporting.**

3 1. On or before July 31 of each year, a lobbyist's client
 4 shall electronically file with the general assembly ~~and board~~
 5 a report that contains information on all salaries, fees,
 6 retainers, and reimbursement of expenses paid by the lobbyist's
 7 client to the lobbyist for lobbying purposes during the
 8 preceding twelve calendar months, concluding on June 30 of each
 9 year. The amount reported to the general assembly ~~and the~~
 10 ~~board~~ shall include the total amount of all salaries, fees,
 11 retainers, and reimbursement of expenses paid to a lobbyist for
 12 lobbying both the legislative and executive branches.

13 2. ~~Reports by a lobbyist's clients shall be filed with~~
 14 ~~the same entity with which the lobbyist filed the lobbyist's~~
 15 ~~registration.~~ The chief clerk of the house and the secretary
 16 of the senate shall establish an internet site for the filing
 17 of lobbyist's client reports in an electronic format.

18 3. ~~The secretary of the senate, chief clerk of the house,~~
 19 ~~and the board shall develop forms to implement this section.~~
 20 The chief clerk of the house and the secretary of the senate
 21 shall post all lobbyist's client reports filed pursuant to this
 22 section in a searchable database on an internet site. The
 23 board shall establish a link on the internet site of the board
 24 to the lobbyist's client report information on the general
 25 assembly's internet site.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill relates to the filing of lobbyist registrations
 28 and lobbyist's client reports with the general assembly.

29 Currently, a person engaged in lobbying activities before
 30 the general assembly files a lobbyist registration with the
 31 general assembly and a person engaged in lobbying activities
 32 before the office of the governor or any state agency files
 33 a lobbyist registration with the ethics and campaign finance
 34 disclosure board. The bill eliminates the requirements
 35 related to filing with the board and provides that regardless

1 of where the lobbying activities take place all lobbyist
2 registrations are filed with the general assembly. The bill
3 requires all lobbyist registrations to be filed electronically
4 and the general assembly is required to post all lobbyist
5 registrations in a searchable database on an internet site.
6 The bill requires the board to establish a link on the internet
7 site of the board to the lobbyist registration information on
8 the general assembly's internet site. The bill unifies the
9 legislative branch and executive branch lobbyist registration
10 periods by making all registrations valid from the date of the
11 registration to the end of the calendar year. The bill allows
12 for preregistration for the following calendar year beginning
13 on December 1 of each year.

14 Currently, a lobbyist's client is required to file an annual
15 report with both the general assembly and the board based
16 on the entity with which the lobbyist filed the lobbyist's
17 registration. The bill requires all lobbyist's client
18 reports to be filed with the general assembly and that the
19 general assembly shall post all lobbyist's client reports in
20 a searchable database on an internet site. The bill requires
21 the board to establish a link on the internet site of the board
22 to the lobbyist's client report information on the general
23 assembly's internet site.